evasion are different parts of the question. The main objective is to use this idle reserve for productive purposes. As pointed out by tie hon. lady Member, an estimated one lakh tonnes of gold is available in the form of jewellery in the entire country. The Government has not so far made any survey in this regard. Regarding the purity of the ornaments I do require a separate notice. It does not come under this question.

*26. [The Questioners (Shri Ram Chandran Pillai and Shri M. A. Baby) were absent. For answer vide col. infra.]

Requirements to open new branch offices by foreign banks

27. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY :†
SHRI RAMANARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the basic requirements of the RBI to clear applications to open new branch offices by foreign banks; and

(b) whether these requirements are strictly being followed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS Dr. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Permission to foreign banks for opening branches in India is granted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in terms of the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949. While granting such permission to foreign banks,

t The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sunil Basu Ray.

RBI, among other things, take into conuderation the following factors :—

(c) The international standing of the foreign bank and its financial position.

(ii) The trade and economic relationship between the country of origin of the applicant bank and India.

Foreign banks incorporated outside India which do not have any branch in India are required to bring in a minimum capital of US $ 25 millions for opening their first branch in the country. Foreign banks are also required to ensure that they maintain in India a minimum capital equivalent to 8% of their risk weighted assets.

(d) Yes, Sir.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : My fast supplementary is that the Government has identified only two conditions for considerations before granting permission to foreign banks for opening branches in India. But there are certain other conditions also. What are those conditons ? I would also like to know who the eight banks are who have applied for permission and who have been granted permission. At the initial stage only two were granted permission and others were not. These banks, in the first instance, violated the Governments regulations in the matter of appointing officers. What action has the Government taken ? Is the action by way of awarding them the licence ? This is my first question.

डा. अबरार अहमद : सर, फारेन बैंक की ब्रांच खोलने के लिए जो दो बातें मैंने माननीय सदस्य के मूल प्रश्न के अंदर दी हैं उसके अलावा भी कुछ बेसिक चीजें हैं जिन पर विचार किया जाता है । फारेन बैंक रेगुलेशन एक्ट 1949 के तहत् ब्रांच खोलने की अनुमति दी जाती है । लेकिन इसके पहले यह भी देखा जाता है

कि जिस देश के बैंक की ब्रांच खोलने की अनुमति दी जा रही है उसकी इन्टरनेशन स्टैंडिंग कैसी है । उसकी फाइनेंशियल पोजिशन कैसी है । इसके साथ-साथ ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : He is only reading the reply. Please answer my question. I want the names of the banks.

डा. अबरार अहमद : इन्होंने दो पार्ट में सवाल पूछा है ।

His question is in two parts. I am giving the reply to the first part.

पहले पार्ट में माननीय सदस्य ने सवाल पूछा है उसके बारे में बताना चाहता हूं कि उसकी फाइनेंशियल पोजिशन क्या है, इन्टरनेशनल स्टैंडिंग कैसी है यह देखा जाता है । दूसरे ट्रेड और इकनोमिक रिलेशनशिप इंडिया से किस प्रकार के हैं और उसके साथ-साथ जो रेसीप्रोकेसी इंडिया से है वह भी देखा जाता है और इंडिया के लिए उस कंट्री का कोई डिस्क्रिमिनेशन रोल तो नहीं है इन सब बातों को देखा जाता है । दूसरा प्वाइंट जो माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है में बताना चाहता हूं कि फरवरी 1992 में 8 बैंकों को लाइसेंस देने थे उनमें से 4 बैंक जिन के इनप्रिंसिपल एप्रूवल दिया है, सेक्योरिटी ट्रांजेक्शन में इन्वालामेंट होने के कारण उनको नहीं दिया । जो लाइसेंस दिए जाने हैं जे. पी. सी. की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद उन पर विचार किया जायेगा । उन चार बैंकों के नाम हैं—स्टेण्डर्ड चार्टर्ड बैंक, एएनजैड ग्रिंडले बैंक, सिटी बैंक और ए. बी. एल. एमो बैंक ।

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : My second supplementary is : What are the names of the banks ? The Minister has not replied to that. My second question is this. What is the total amount of foreign money invested by these banks in India, both individual and total ?

डा. अबरार अहमद : सर, मार्च, 1992 के फीगर्स में दे रहा हूं । इंवेस्टमेंट है 8134 करोड़ और टोटल डिपोजिट है 17166 करोड़ और बोरोइंग है 3895 करोड़ और एडवान्सेज प्राइवेट सेक्टर को है 694 करोड़, एक्सपोर्ट क्रेडिट 11 हैन्ड्रेड 7 करोड़ और नेट प्रोफिट है 321 करोड़ ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Trunk call racket involving telephone operators

*22. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trunk call racket both national and international was detected involving businessmen and telephone operators;

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the enquiry conducted by Government in the matter; and

(c) what measures Government have taken to check it and to remove the deficiencies in the system, if any

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) No racket as such was detected. However raids and checks conducted by Department of Telecommunications/Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited along with C.B.I. Officers have resulted in initiating disciplinary actions against 31 Departmental